

**Middletown Public Schools**

**Middletown, Rhode Island**

**December 16, 2008**

**6:30 p.m. – Executive Session**

**7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting**

**MICHAEL S. PINTO CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Members Present: Michael F. Crowley, Jr., Chairman**

**Theresa Spengler, Vice-Chair**

**Kellie M. DiPalma**

**Liana F. Fenton**

**William R. O'Connell**

**Also Present: Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools**

**Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent for Academic and  
Technology Services**

**Catherine McLeish, Business Manager**

**Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Kellie DiPalma. To go into  
Executive Session 42-46-5 (a) 1, 2,5,8,9 at 6:32 p.m. Unanimous vote.**

**Mr. Crowley announced that a grievance was unanimously denied by the School Committee.**

**The regular meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Michael Crowley. Administrative staff members present were Vincent Giuliano, Michelle Fonseca and Pete Wood. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

**Mr. Crowley introduced new School Committee members Mr. William O'Connell and Miss Kellie DiPalma.**

## **SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING**

### **“Middletown Sports Boosters”**

**This has been rescheduled for January.**

**(Minutes of December 16, 2008 School Committee Meeting, Page Two)**

## **PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS**

**•STUDENT AWARDS – Student Awards were presented in the following categories:**

**oNewport Daily News Athlete of the Week**

**oNewport Daily News Student of the Week**

## **oGirls' Tennis Division IV Champions 2008 and Girls' Tennis Division IV East Co-Champions**

### **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**No Student Activities for December 16, 2008.**

### **INFORMATION**

**Mrs. Kraeger noted items of information in the School Committee Package:**

- MISA Annual Conference will be held in Newport on June 21-22, 2009.**
- RI Foundation grant for \$17,000 – Middletown Academic and Career Exploration – placing ALP students**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Letter from Jerome P. Egan, NEARI, requesting to meet and confer for the purpose of negotiating a successor agreement to the current contract which expires August 31, 2009.**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee receive the communication. Unanimous vote.**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.**

- Approval of Minutes of October 16, 2008 Regular School Committee Meeting**
- Approval of Minutes of October 16, 2008 Executive Session**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 14, 2008, in the amount of \$204,197.33**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 17, 2008, in the amount of \$2,970.94**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 27, 2008, in the amount of \$451,018.26**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated November 3, 2008, in the amount of \$2,661.89**
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated November 10, 2008, in the amount of \$414,470.04**

**(Minutes of December 16, 2008 School Committee Meeting, Page Three)**

- Approval of Invoice Register, dated November 14, 2008, in the amount of \$1,111.04
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated November 21, 2008, in the amount of \$369,485.65
- Approval of Invoice Register, dated December 2, 2008, in the amount of \$794.80
- Approval of Special Grants Register, dated October 14, 2008, in the amount of \$13,234.41
- Approval of Special Grants Register, dated October 29, 2008, in the amount of \$10,356.24
- Approval of Special Grants Register, dated November 25, 2008, in the amount of \$9,944.08
- Approval of Special Grants Register, dated November 25, 2008, in the amount of \$9,975.27

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL**

### **APPOINTMENT**

**Janice O'Donnell High School Technology Educator (K-12 Support)**

**MATERNITY LEAVE - ARTICLE XIV, C, OPTION #1 (NEA/Middletown)**

**Meaghan Corr Grade 7, ELA, J.H. Gaudet School**

**From January 5, 2009 to April 20, 2009**

**Angela Nunes Grade 5, Special Education, J.H. Gaudet School**

**From January 5, 2009 to April 6, 2009**

**TRANSFER**

**Derek Gosselin From Part-Time to Full-Time Custodian, Middletown High School**

## **2008-2009 WINTER COACHING APPOINTMENTS**

**Michael Clancey Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach**

**Raleigh Brennan Boys' Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach**

**Charles Russ Boys' 6/7/8th Grade Basketball Coach**

**Justin Buffman Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach**

**Shane Fennessey Girls' Assistant Varsity Basketball Coach**

**David Pritchard Girls' 6/7/8th Grade Basketball Coach**

**Richard Francis, Jr. Varsity Wrestling Coach**

**Andrew Bulk Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach**

**Jason Smith-Rushton 6/7/8th Grade Wrestling Coach**

**Shannon Farrell Varsity Gymnastics Coach**

**Theresa DiGiovanni Varsity Swim Coach**

**Timothy Anderson Assistant Varsity Swim Coach**

**Stephen Saunders Varsity Hockey Coach**

**Jay Punsky Assistant Varsity Hockey Coach**

**Renee Brietzke Cheerleading Coach**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO APPLY FOR HR6 – TITLE 8 – 874 IMPACT AID**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee authorize the Superintendent to apply for HR6 – title 8 – 874 Impact Aid. Unanimous vote.**

### **POP WARNER LEASE**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee approve the lease between the Middletown Public Schools and Pop Warner. Unanimous vote.**

**Mrs. Kraeger said that the Pop Warner Facility, “The Barn”, was totally funded by Pop Warner. A tour and Open House should be held for the public. This effort demonstrates the collaboration between the town and schools.**

### **ELEVATOR SERVICE CONTRACT**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School**

**Committee extend the elevator service contract with Kone Elevator for one year. Unanimous vote.**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN FOR 403(B) TAX SHELTERED ANNUITIES**

**MOTION: 1)Liana Fenton, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee adopt the Administrative Plan for 403(b) Tax Sheltered Annuities. Unanimous vote.**

**Mrs. McLeish said that a contract agreement with Gateway has been reached. New IRS regulations require a plan in place until January 1st, 2010.**

#### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR 2009**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the School Committee Meeting dates for 2009. Unanimous vote.**

#### **HOME SCHOOLING**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma. That the School Committee approve home schooling 08-09-03. Unanimous vote.**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**



**No “Old Business” for December 16, 2008.**

**(Minutes of December 16, 2008 School Committee Meeting, Page Five)**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**No “New Business” for December 16, 2008.**

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS**

**•CURRICULUM – Mrs. Savastano reported that she has been working with teachers completing curriculum maps. They will chart the course for the year based upon state mandated GLE’s and GSE’s. All K-8 teachers have had Professional Development sessions. From now until the end of the school year, teachers will work to chart the reading and writing curriculum. Middletown High School is about a year ahead of the other schools with curriculum mapping. All curriculum maps will be done as templates and accessible on Tie Net.**

**Mrs. Savastano and Mr. Giuliano attended a science NECAP review to**

review local and state results. The results of ELA and math testing taken in October will be released in January. A leadership workshop was held with principals, grade leaders, lead teachers to analyze results.

•**FINANCIAL** – Impact Aid count was taken in October. No payment has been received for 08/09 fiscal year. As of November 30th, 27.86% of the 08/09 budget has been expended. This is slightly below last year's percent. We are being cautious and conservative based on the news of a possible decrease in State Aid. Overtime has already been reduced and all budget requests are being scrutinized. Preparation for the 09/10 budget is underway. The first step was a meeting held last night with the Town Council. Two contracts will be negotiated this year; teachers and teacher assistants. All school districts are developing a suggested list of waivers and relief.

As we go forward with the 09/10 budget, we need to prepare for the worst scenario, while still maintaining the integrity of the system.

Budget Workshop dates are being determined.

•**FACILITIES** – Radon testing is being done throughout the district. This has to be done while the building is occupied to have accurate results. A graph of utilities use, as well as work order use is included in the package. Air quality testing was normal.

**MOTION: 1)Liana Fenton, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.**

**(Minutes of December 16, 2008 School Committee Meeting, Page Six)**

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

**Mrs. Fenton – Attended a School to Career Meeting and discussed new career clusters and pathways. There are now sixteen career pathways that the Department of Education has deemed necessary. The three major areas of concern are; 1) No money for school-based coordinators, 2) Need to develop articulation agreements, and 3) Industry certification.**

**Attended the Aquidneck Island Regionalization Committee meeting with Mr. Crowley.**

**Mr. Crowley - Attended a School Committee Orientation with Miss DiPalma and Mrs. Kraeger sponsored by the R.I. School Committee Association. There was discussion regarding suggestions to help get through the budget crisis. Quarterly meetings are held and anyone is welcome to attend. Also in January, there will be another workshop on collective bargaining.**

**The Aquidneck Island Regionalization Committee meetings are held the first Monday of each month. A breakfast meeting with all island legislators is scheduled for January 12th at the Mainstay.**

**Mrs. Kraeger attended the Middletown High School play and said it was outstanding. She thanked Jackie Zahm, Kevin Zahm, Phil Statser and Claudia Vars for all their hard work.**

### **ADJOURN FROM MEETING**

**MOTION: 1)Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 8:00 p.m. Unanimous vote.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk**